

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11

FRB-03 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12

SP-03 CIEP-03 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PA-04

USIA-15 PRS-01 DRC-01 /129 W  
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R 010927Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5709

UNCLAS MANILA 9186

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, RP

SUBJ: EMERGENCY ALLOWANCE MADE COMPULSORY FOR PRIVATE SECTOR

REF MANILA 8780

BEGIN SUMMARY: PRESIDENT HAS NOW MADE PAYMENT OF EMERGENCY ALLOWANCE COMPULSORY FOR PRIVATE SECTOR. HE ALSO WANTS 10 PERCENT ACROSS-THE-BOARD WAGE INCREASE RECENTLY GRANTED GOVERNMENT WORKERS TO SERVE AS GUIDELINE FOR WAGE POLICIES OF PRIVATE SECTOR. GOVERNMENT ACTIONS ON WAGE FRONT WILL PROVIDE ORGANIZED LABOR WITH MUCH-NEEDED AMMUNITION IN COLLECTIVE BARGAINING NEGOTIATIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. PRESIDENT ISSUED DECREE (NO. 525) JULY 31, MAKING MANDATORY THE PAYMENT TO PRIVATE SECTOR WORKERS OF EMERGENCY ALLOWANCE EARLIER GRANTED PUBLIC SECTOR. ACCORDING TO PRESIDENTIAL PRESS RELEASE, STEP TAKEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT'S POLICY OF "GROWTH WITH JUSTICE" AND IN ORDER TO ENABLE PRIVATE SECTOR WORKERS TO COPE WITH RISING COST OF LIVING.

2. AS OF JULY 31, SOME 35,000 OUT OF APPROXIMATELY 56,000 PRIVATE FIRMS HAD COMPLIED VOLUNTARILY AND WILL BE ELIGIBLE  
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FOR SUCH MEASURES OF RECOGNITION AND ASSISTANCE AS MIGHT

BE DEEMED APPROPRIATE BY THE SECRETARY OF LABOR. OF 1,110,000  
PRIVATE SECTOR WORKERS BENEFITED UNTIL NOW, 719,000 HAVE  
BEEN IN GREATER MANILA AREA.

3. AS REGARDS 10 PERCENT WAGE INCREASED GRANTED GOVERNMENT  
WORKERS JULY 22 (SEE REFTTEL), PRESIDENT HAS SAID HE WANTS  
THAT SALARY ADJUSTMENT TO SERVE AS GAUGE FOR WAGE AND BONUS  
POLICIES OF PRIVATE SECTOR.

4. COMMENT. GOVERNMENT'S CURRENT PRESSURE ON PRIVATE SECTOR  
TO PROVIDE SOME WAGE RELIEF FOR WORKERS WILL PROVIDE ORGAN-  
IZED LABOR SEGMENT OF PRIVATE SECTOR WITH MUCH-NEEDED AMMUNI-  
TION IN COLLECTIVE BARGAINING NEGOTIATIONS AND IN ARBITRATION  
CONCERNING WAGE ADJUSTMENTS. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR HAS CONFIRMED  
THAT COMPLIANCE WITH EMERGENCY ALLOWANCE HAS BEEN PARTICULARLY  
SPOTTY IN PROVINCES.  
SULLIVAN

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## Message Attributes

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